



FRIDAY NIGHT FACTS

Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives

Mitchell E. Daniels, Jr., Governor

Paula Parker-Sawyers, Executive Director

A Periodic Publication for Indiana AmeriCorps* Programs and Community Service Partners
May 26, 2006 Volume 6, Issue 15



Welcome to Friday Night Facts ! The start of summer means a time for relaxation and 'fun in the sun' for some. However, for many volunteers and organizations that exist to help those in need, summer is the time to renew their purpose, to rekindle their enthusiasm, to review and revise their skills and to learn more so they can do more for those in greatest need. As you will see in this week's issue, there are a number of opportunities listed that will help you be better at what you are doing to improve your community. I hope that you will take advantage of these and the many seminars, classes, and discussions that will take place across the state that are focused on improving our state and the quality of life for its citizens.

Hunger & Nutrition Summit

Strengthen your organization's response to childhood hunger by joining the Indiana Coalition on Housing and Homeless Issues and its partners, Feeding Indiana's Hungry (FiSH) and Children's Bureau, Inc. at the 2006 Hunger and Nutrition Summit. The Summit will take place on **Friday, June 2nd** in Indianapolis at the North United Methodist Church, 3808 North Meridian, from **8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.**

Workshops include:

- * Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation: Successful Models for Summer Feeding Programs
- * Ensuring Year-round Nutrition for Children: Food Stamp Outreach Opportunities for Schools, Community and Faith-Based Organizations
- * Innovative Public-Private Partnerships: Kid's Cafe and Backpack Programs
- * One Voice, Your Voice: Strengthening Our Collective Response to Hunger

In addition to the workshops, Clarence Carter, USDA Deputy Director of the Food Stamp Program and Peter Dunn, CEO of Steak n Shake will be giving the keynote and end-of-the-day plenary session, respectively. Mr. Dunn will be discussing ways that faith and community-based organizations can partner with business and industry to strengthen the response to hunger in our state. During lunch, President and CEO of the Indiana Youth Institute, Bill Stanczykiewicz will be moderating a question and answer discussion with state legislators and Bruce Hillman CEO of Campagna Academy will be presenting on the Contract With Hoosier Children.

Register now at www.ichhi.org or by contacting Jill Nielsen-Farrell at 317-636-8819 ext. 8107 or jnielsen@ichhi.org.

Join the Center of Excellence in Leadership of Learning (CELL) to STAND UP for improved schools through improved teaching.

Tuesday, June 6, 2006, @ 7:00 p.m. at the **University of Indianapolis**, Christel DeHaan Fine Arts Center, 1400 East Hanna Avenue, Indianapolis.

Keynote Presentation: White Educators Teaching Children of Color

Tim Wise, author of *White Like Me: Reflections on Race from a Privileged Son*

Panel Discussion : Best Practices and Classroom Implications in Teaching Children of Color with Larry Myatt and Kathleen Mullin, Boston Public Schools; Daniel Baron, National School Reform Faculty; and Jane Kendrick, Indianapolis Public Schools. **For more information, visit** <http://cell.uindy.edu>

FitCity's Monthly Tip

There's never a better time to get fit than the summer – when long warm evenings and fresh fruits and vegetables make it easy to live a healthier lifestyle. FitCity and INShape Indiana provide you with a few tips to help you get up and get moving during the month of June.

Endless summer: With daylight saving time adding an hour of light in the evenings, there's more time to go for a walk, organize a neighborhood basketball game or take your kids to the park.

School's out for summer: Most kids are celebrating summer vacation – but don't let them turn into couch potatoes. Sign them up for a sports camp, day camp or athletic team. Several are offered through your local YMCA (www.ymca.net), Boys & Girls Club (www.bgca.org) or Indy Parks (www.indyparks.org) facility.

Let's hear it for the boys: It's also the month to celebrate dads. Men's Health Week is June 12-18, followed by Father's Day on June 18. So kids, grab your dad and take him for a walk around the neighborhood, play catch or challenge him to a one-on-one basketball game in the driveway.

Freshen up: Stock up on fresh vegetables and fruits, which can add flavor and color (think red, yellow and green peppers, squash, strawberries, etc.) to any meal, without sacrificing calories.

Tasty summer salad:

Watermelon salad with lime dressing

4 cups watermelon, cubed
1 cup honeydew melon, cubed
1 cup cantaloupe, cubed
¼ cup Vidalia onion or other sweet onion, slivered
¼ cup fresh lime juice
2 Tbs. honey
2 Tbs. fresh mint, chopped
1 Tbs. vegetable oil
Salt and pepper, to taste

Directions:

1. Whisk lime juice, honey, mint, and oil together until honey is dissolved.
2. Combine the melons and onion in a large bowl.
3. Toss melon mixture with lime dressing to coat.
4. Garnish with salt and pepper to taste.

For more healthy recipes and activities log onto www.fitcity.info and www.INShape.IN.gov.

USDA Rural Development 504 Loans & Grants Available to Assist Hoosier Homeowners

USDA Rural Development Single Family Housing Programs offer very-low income rural residents 1% loans and grants. The loans can be used for a wide range of home repairs & improvements but can only be used to make essential repairs, remove health and safety issues, or to make a home handicapped accessible. These loans are funded directly by the government and are available to very-low income residents who own and occupy a home that is in need of repairs.

The loan maximum is \$20,000, is a 1% loan with a 20-year payback period. The income limit, for a family of two, ranges from \$21,100 to \$26,050 and applicants must hold title to the property being improved. Applicants must have stable income, reasonably good credit, and the ability to meet the payments.

Grants are available to residents who are 62 years of age or older who cannot afford a loan. The grants may be used for repairs or improvements to remove health and safety hazards or to complete repairs to make a home handicapped accessible. The maximum grant amount is \$7,500 and may be combined with a Repair and Rehabilitation Loan.

For more information, go to <http://eligibility.sc.egov.usda.gov/>



Workshops Available Through the NTC



The United Way of Central Indiana Nonprofit Training Center (NTC) is ready to meet your training and consulting needs! Their goal is to increase the capacity of nonprofit agencies to govern and manage themselves so they can provide quality programming in an accountable manner that makes a positive impact on the communities they serve. They are available to help agencies in the six-county area that we serve through United Way of Central Indiana (UWCI), as well as Shelby and Johnson counties as part of the Indiana Nonprofit Resource Network.

They are offering four workshops in May and June for nonprofit agency staff and the members of their boards. The **Aspiring to Excellence** Series will meet at United Way of Central Indiana, 3901 N. Meridian Street, Indianapolis. For more information or to register, please contact Kimberly Donahue, 317-921-1212 or email Kimberly.Donahue@uwci.org

Aspiring to Excellence: Organizational Planning for the Future

What are the elements of an organized approach to planning? Getting started is the hardest part! Learn the beginning steps on reviewing mission and vision, assessing what you already have, setting priorities and keeping your plan relevant.

When: Wed., May 31, 9 - 11 a.m. **Cost:** \$45 United Way agencies; \$50 other nonprofit agencies; \$65 corporations.

Aspiring to Excellence: Diversifying Your Board

Having a diverse board makes good business sense. Learn from our panel of experts about diversifying your board and identifying resources that can help.

When: Mon., June 12, 9 - 11 a.m. **Cost:** \$45 United Way agencies; \$50 other nonprofit agencies; \$65 corporations.

Aspiring to Excellence: Board Roles and Responsibilities

What are the three major aspects of board structure and duties? Learn the difference between a board responsibility and a staff responsibility. What are the best practices with regard to the legal responsibilities of the board?

When: Tues., June 20, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. **Cost:** \$45 United Way agencies; \$50 other nonprofit agencies; \$65 corporations.

Aspiring to Excellence: Involving the Board in Fundraising

What are the 10 Immutable Laws of the Fundraising Universe? Learn how to overcome fundraising fears, recruit a volunteer fundraising team and communicate expectations about money to the board.

When: Thurs., June 29, 7:30 - 9:30 a.m. **Cost:** \$45 United Way agencies; \$50 other nonprofit agencies; \$65 corporations.

TEACHER WORKSHOPS

From June through August, the Education Department will convene 14 Teacher-to-Teacher regional workshops for teachers to learn from fellow educators who have had success in raising student achievement. Four will cover the full range of subjects taught in elementary and secondary schools; three are co-sponsored by the National Park Service, dedicated to math, science, and history; four are co-sponsored by TechNet, geared to math and science; two will target the teaching of foreign languages; and one will target the teaching of English as a Second Language. Registration is free, and meals/refreshments will be provided during scheduled activities, but participants are responsible for their transportation and lodging. For more information, please go to <http://www.t2tweb.us/Workshops/About.asp> (Note: Teachers may be eligible for professional development credits through their school districts or states. To check state requirements, see <http://www.paec.org/teacher2teacher/map.html>)



Pandemic Flu Prep

This week's segment contains part one of the Faith-Based and Community Organizations Preparedness Checklist. If you would like further information, please visit <http://www.pandemicflu.gov>



The collaboration of Faith-Based and Community Organizations with public health agencies will be essential in protecting the public's health and safety if and when an influenza pandemic occurs. This checklist provides guidance for religious organizations (churches, synagogues, mosques, temples, etc.), social service agencies that are faith-based, and community organizations in developing and improving influenza pandemic response and preparedness plans. Many of the points suggested here can improve your organization's ability to protect your community during emergencies in general.

1. Plan for the impact of a pandemic on your organization and its mission:

Assign key staff with the authority to develop, maintain and act upon an influenza pandemic preparedness and response plan.

Determine the potential impact of a pandemic on your organization's usual activities and services. Plan for situations likely to require increasing, decreasing or altering the services your organization delivers.

Determine the potential impact of a pandemic on outside resources that your organization depends on to deliver its services (e.g., supplies, travel, etc.)

Outline what the organizational structure will be during an emergency and revise periodically. The outline should identify key contacts with multiple back-ups, role and responsibilities, and who is supposed to report to whom.

Identify and train essential staff (including full-time, part-time and unpaid or volunteer staff) needed to carry on your organization's work during a pandemic. Include back up plans, cross-train staff in other jobs so that if staff are sick, others are ready to come in to carry the work.

Test your response and preparedness plan using an exercise or drill, and review and revise your plan as needed.

2. Communicate with and educate your staff, members, and persons in the communities that you serve:

Find up-to-date, reliable pandemic information and other public health advisories from state and local health departments, emergency management agencies, and CDC. Make this information available to your organization and others.

Distribute materials with basic information about pandemic influenza: signs and symptoms, how it is spread, ways to protect yourself and your family (e.g., respiratory hygiene and cough etiquette), family preparedness plans, and how to care for ill persons at home.

When appropriate, include basic information about pandemic influenza in public meetings (e.g. sermons, classes, trainings, small group meetings and announcements).

Share information about your pandemic preparedness and response plan with staff, members, and persons in the communities that you serve.

Develop tools to communicate information about pandemic status and your organization's actions. This might include websites, flyers, local newspaper announcements, pre-recorded widely distributed phone messages, etc.

Consider your organization's unique contribution to addressing rumors, misinformation, fear and anxiety.

Advise staff, members, and persons in the communities you serve to follow information provided by public health authorities—state and local health departments, emergency management agencies, and CDC.

Ensure that what you communicate is appropriate for the cultures, languages and reading levels of your staff, members, and persons in the communities that you serve.